

# KINDERGARTEN

## Children as Citizens: An Introduction to Social Studies

**Standard K-2:** The student will demonstrate an understanding of rules and authority in a child's life.

**K-2.1** Explain the purposes of rules and laws and the consequences of breaking them, including the sometimes unspoken rules of sportsmanship and fair play. (P)

**Taxonomy Level:** B 2 Understand /Conceptual Knowledge

**Previous/future knowledge:** This is the student's first introduction to the purpose of rules and laws. Students will later (K-2.3) identify people in the community and school who enforce the rules that keep people safe, including crossing guards, firefighters, and police officers. In first grade (1-3.1) students will identify the basic functions of government, including making and enforcing laws and protecting citizens. Also in first grade (1-4.1) students will learn to recognize the basic values of American democracy, including respect for the rights and opinions of others, fair treatment for everyone, and respect for the rules by which we live.

**It is essential for students to know** the purpose of rules and laws and consequences for breaking them. Students should also understand how rules and laws help keep us safe. They should understand that all people need rules and laws and that some forms of rules are informal or unspoken. Rules around teamwork, sportsmanship, and fair play are examples of important informal rules. Sportsmanship can be defined as the "golden rule" applied to the people we play both with and against. The "golden rule", treat others as we would like to be treated, generally is an excellent example of an informal rule that guides our behavior. Students should know that they demonstrate good sportsmanship when they show respect for themselves, their teammates, and their opponents.

**It is not essential for students to know** specific state and national governmental laws or specific rules of games.

### Assessment guidelines:

Appropriate assessment requires students to *explain* the purposes of rules and laws; therefore, the primary focus of assessment should be to construct cause and effect models of the various ways that rules and laws affect behavior. However, appropriate assessments should also require students to *recall* that sportsmanship and fair play are types of unwritten rules; and to *exemplify* the types of consequences that impact people who break rules.